

more carpenters and to expand sales worldwide after receiving calls from throughout Europe and as far away as Pakistan. He hopes to begin production of "crooked" dog houses, but his ultimate goal is to build complete playgrounds for hotels and resorts.

Clearly, Kids Crooked House has demonstrated a commitment to quality craftsmanship, which has not gone unnoticed. The company works by a mantra of "If a kid can dream it, we can build it." What a wonderful perspective. It is always a pleasure to see small businesses with such a dedication to children, and having a company that fills such a specific niche in Maine is a boost to our State. The upcoming year will be an exciting and beneficial one for Kids Crooked House, and I wish everyone associated with the business continued success and many more smiling children's faces.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 359. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life of Cesar Estrada Chavez and the farm labor movement.

H.R. 660. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect judges, prosecutors, witnesses, victims, and their family members, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1725. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Rancho California Water District Southern Riverside County Recycled/Non-Potable Distribution Facilities and Demineralization/Desalination Recycled Water Treatment and Reclamation Facility Project.

H.R. 1904. An act to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1979. An act to require any Federal or State court to recognize any notarization made by a notary public licensed by a State other than the State where the court is located when such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce.

H.R. 2121. An act to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior.

H.R.2381. An act to promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2501, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 359. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life of Cesar Estrada Chavez and the farm labor movement; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1725. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Rancho California Water District Southern Riverside County Recycled Non-Potable Distribution Facilities and Demineralization/Desalination Recycled Water Treatment and Reclamation Facility Project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1979. To require any Federal or State court to recognize any notarization made by a notary public licensed by a State other than the State where the court is located when such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2121. An act to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2381. An act to promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1904. An act to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2506. A communication from the Acting Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Television Stations Digital Transition Grant Program" (RIN0572-AC02) received on July 10, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2507. A communication from the Acting Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for

International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act that occurred in the Capital Investment Fund; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2508. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the authorization of the Secretary of the Air Force to enter into multiyear contracts for the procurement of up to 60 F-22 aircraft beginning with the 2007 program year; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2509. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, (3) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received on July 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2510. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the operations of the National Defense Stockpile during fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2511. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Plutonium Storage at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2512. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, proposed legislation intended to ensure that the Federal Housing Administration continues to play a key role in serving low- and moderate-income homebuyers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2513. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to its system of internal controls for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2514. A communication from the Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's management report for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2515. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Bank's system of internal controls for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2516. A communication from the Senior Vice President for Resource Management, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Buy American Act for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2517. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2007 through 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2518. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Award Fee Administrative Changes" (RIN2700-AD33) received on July 10, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2519. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's position on